

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192523

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU

SUBJECT: CYPRUS RECOGNITION ISSUE

REF: ANKARA 6060

PURSUANT TO YOUR REQUEST FOR AMPLIFICATION OF OUR LEGAL
POSITION (REFTEL), EMBASSY MAY FIND USEFUL IN FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FOLLOWING SET
OF POINTS WHICH EXPAND ON THOSE MADE AUGUST 12 BY EUR ASST
SECRETARY VEST IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH TURKISH CHARGE.

A. THE QUESTION OF GOVERNMENTAL RECOGNITION DOES NOT ARISE
FOR THE UNITED STATES AS A RESULT OF MAKARIOS' DEATH. THE
ONLY ISSUE, IF ANY, IS THE RECOGNITION OF MAKARIOS'
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SUCCESSOR OR SUCCESSORS AS PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS.

B. THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO HOLD THE VIEW SHARED BY
VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD THAT THE 1960
CYPRUS CONSTITUTION REMAINS IN FORCE AND THAT THE GOVERN-
MENT UNTIL RECENTLY HEADED BY MAKARIOS ENJOYED FULL AUTHOR-
ITY UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW TO REPRESENT THE REPUBLIC

IN THE INTERNATIONAL SPHERE. - -

C. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE UNITED STATES WILL REGARD

PRESIDENTS SERVING AS PROVIDED UNDER ARTICLES 1, 31, 44,
AND OTHER RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE 1960 CONSTITUTION AS
PRESIDENTS OF THE REPUBLIC, AND WILL MAINTAIN NORMAL
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS.

D. MORE PARTICULARLY, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ACTIONS OF
THE GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THE PAST, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN
INCONSISTENT WITH SOME PROVISIONS OF THE CYPRIOT CONSTI-
TUTION INVALIDATED THAT CONSTITUTION.

E. THUS, THE DEATH OF MAKARIOS DOES NOT CHANGE THE BASIC
VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WITH REGARD TO THE
CYPRUS CONSTITUTION AND THE LEGALITY OF THE CYPRIOT GOVERN-
MENT. WE RECOGNIZE THAT OUR VIEWS ARE NOT ACCEPTED BY
THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY (OR THE TURKISH-CYPRIOT MINORITY).
WE FULLY UNDERSTAND BUT DO NOT AGREE WITH THE TURKISH
POSITION. WE WOULD PREFER AT THIS TIME, AS WE HAVE IN THE
PAST, TO AVOID FRUITLESS ARGUMENT WITH THE GOT ON THIS
SUBJECT.

F. WE WOULD STRONGLY HOPE THAT THE GOT POSITION ON
RECOGNITION OF A NEW CYPRIOT PRESIDENT WILL NOT BE PERMIT-
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TED TO PREVENT THE RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, AND
WOULD OBSERVE THAT THOSE TALKS CONSTITUTED THE ONE PLACE
WHERE THE TWO CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES PRESENTLY ENJOY EQUAL
STATUS. CHRISTOPHER

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